

besides a threading action. Thus, the invention is to be limited only by the following claims and equivalents thereof.

## CLAIMS

### **What is Claimed Is:**

1. A tool for spreading the opposed legs of a pitman-arm of the type having a shaft passage between the opposed legs, said tool comprising, in combination:
  - a cross bar frame member having a centerline axis, a first lateral arm extending radially from the axis and a second lateral arm extending in the opposite direction from the lateral first arm;
  - a first depending arm pivotally attached at one end to the first lateral arm at a first radial distance from the axis and generally extending in an axial direction;
  - a second depending arm pivotally attached at one end to the second lateral arm at a second radial distance from the axis and extending in the same axial direction as the first depending arm;
  - each of said depending arms including a rod section extending radially inward toward the axis, said rod sections generally opposed to each other;
  - a drive rod axially extending through the cross bar frame member and axially adjustable in the frame member, said drive rod including a leading end wedge section aligned intermediate the depending arms whereby the rod sections may be simultaneously positioned in a fastener bore in a pitman-arm as the wedge section is positioned and driven intermediate the opposed legs by axial drive rod movement to effect leg separation.

2. The tool of claim 1 wherein the drive rod includes a polygonal head and the drive rod is threaded in the cross bar frame member.

3. The tool of claim 1 wherein each of the lateral arms are comprised of a yoke with a pivot element connecting the respective depending arms.

4. The tool of claim 1 wherein the wedge section comprises a separate wedge element pivotally mounted at the leading end of the drive rod.

5. The tool of claim 4 including a lock washer to retain the wedge element on the drive rod.

6. A method for removal of a pitman-arm of the type having a shaft passage between opposed legs said legs including a fastener bore therethrough transverse to the shaft passage comprising the steps of:

positioning a tool having a cross bar frame member having a centerline axis, a first lateral arm extending radially from the axis and a second lateral arm extending in the opposite direction from the lateral first arm;

a first depending arm pivotally attached at one end to the first lateral arm at a first radial distance from the axis and generally extending in an axial direction;

a second depending arm pivotally attached at one end to the second lateral arm at a second radial distance from the axis and extending in the same axial direction as the first depending arm;

each of said depending arms including a rod section extending radially inward toward the axis, said rod sections generally opposed to each other;

a drive rod axially extending through the cross bar frame member and axially adjustable in the frame member, said drive rod including a leading end wedge section aligned intermediate the depending arms whereby the rod sections may be simultaneously positioned in a fastener bore in a pitman-arm as the wedge section is positioned and driven intermediate the opposed legs by axial drive rod movement to effect leg separation

with said wedge section intermediate the pitman-arm legs and the rod sections in the fastener bore moving the drive rod to drive the wedge section between the legs; and removing the pitman-arm from the shaft.